PsycINFO at a Glance

Getting into PsycINFO
From the University Libraries’ homepage sc.edu/libraries click on Databases below the search box.

If you are off campus or on the wireless network you’ll be prompted for your username and password after you select a database.

On the A-Z Databases page, find Psychology as a Subject to see a list of databases or use the alphabetical links.

Building a Search
Break your topic into its most important parts
Brainstorm different terms

AND all terms must be present narrows results

OR either term may be present widens a search, synonyms

* wildcard for different endings parent* = parent, parents, parental, parenting

Next scroll down for limits including:

Peer Reviewed
Age Groups (Neonatal to Very Old)
Population Group (human, animal, male, female, inpatient, outpatient)
Methodology (ex. Empirical study)

Search Tips
Spell terms out instead of using acronyms

Usually plural instead of singular, but use a wildcard (an asterisk *) and get both

Use the Thesaurus to learn what terms the database uses. The thesaurus can also help you identify related, narrower, or broader terms

Search by Author
-Hover over More and select Indexes
-Highlight Author.
-Start typing the last name in the Browse for box (include a comma after the last name if you want to type the first initial).
-Then click the Browse button.
-Check off all possible forms of your author’s name and
-Add them to the search.

See finding an author in action (28 seconds)
Analyzing the Results
Hover over the magnifying glass to begin to see the article’s abstract (a brief summary) without having to click

Supportive and controlling parental involvement as predictors of children's academic achievement: Relations to children's ADHD symptoms and parenting stress.
Subjects: Academic Achievement; Attention Deficit Disorder with Hyperactivity; Parent Child Relations; Parenting Style; Childhood (birth-12 yrs); School Age (6-12 yrs); Male; Female

Getting the Articles (dissertations, book chapters, books)
Have the system put the citations into APA format for you, although you’ll always want to doublecheck! E-mail the results. Begin by either adding things to a folder or e-mail individual results by first clicking on the title. If you search PsycINFO (or the other EBSCO databases) a lot, you can create your own EBSCOhost account. That way your folder remains after your searching session. Set up an account by clicking “Sign In” at the top of the screen.

Article can be emailed from PsycINFO

See adding to a folder and emailing with citations in APA format (30 seconds)

Full Text Finder
Searches the University Libraries Ejournal list. We may still have the article online. Save when you see the full article. If we don’t have it online, search the library catalog to see if we have it in print and Google in case it’s freely available.
When you find a dissertation, open up a new tab or window. From the University Libraries’ A-Z Databases page, get into Dissertations & Theses Global and search for the dissertation. You may find a PDF of the entire dissertation.

See going from PsycINFO to Dissertations and Theses in action (32 seconds)

When you find a book or book chapter, open up a new tab or window. Search the library catalog for the book.

See finding two chapters in action (42 seconds)

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